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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016907-1298

In re patent application of

Sunao TABATA et al.

Serial No. 09/955,312

Group Art Unit: 2623

Filed: September 19, 2001

Examiner: Jingge Wu

For: IMAGE COMPRESSION DECODING APPARATUS AND METHOD THEREOF

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 23, 2004, Applicants hereby elect the species of Group I, namely, the embodiment of Figure 1, for prosecution in the subject application. Claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 are readable on the elected species.

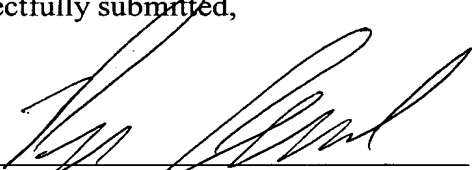
Applicants, of course, reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the non-elected subject matter and/or to receive consideration of claims to additional species as provided by 37 CFR 1.141, upon allowance of any claim that is generic.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

December 23, 2004

Date


Pavan K. Agarwal

Reg. No. 40,888

FOLEY & LARDNER

Customer Number: 22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 945-6162

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399